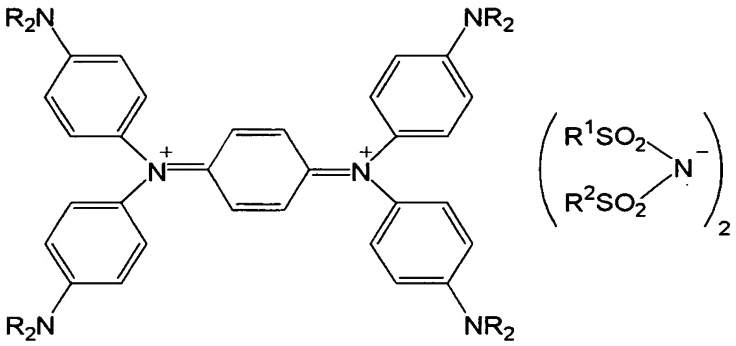
Claims

1. A near-infrared light absorbing dye obtained from a diimonium salt comprising a sulfonimide represented by the following formula (1) as an anion moiety:



(1)

wherein, R individually represent an alkyl group, alkyl halide, cyanoalkyl group, aryl group, hydroxyl group, phenyl group, or phenylalkylene group, and R^1 and R^2 individually represent a fluoroalkyl group or combine to form a fluoroalkylene group.

2. The near-infrared light absorbing dye of claim 1, wherein R^1 and R^2 individually represent a perfluoroalkyl group having 1-8 carbon atoms.

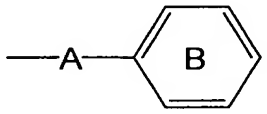
3. The near-infrared light absorbing dye of claim 2, wherein R^1 and R^2 both represent a trifluoromethyl group or both represent a pentafluoroethyl group.

4. The near-infrared light absorbing dye of claim 1, wherein R^1 and R^2 combine to form a perfluoroalkylene group having 2-12 carbon atoms.

5. The near-infrared light absorbing dye of claim 4, wherein R^1 and R^2 combine to form a hexafluoropropylene group.

6. The near-infrared light absorbing dye of any one of claims 1-5, wherein R represents a linear or branched alkyl group having 1-8 carbon atoms, an alkyl halide, or a cyanoalkyl group.

7. The near-infrared light absorbing dye of any one of claims 1-5, wherein R represents a phenylalkylene group of the following formula:



(2)

wherein, A represents a linear or branched alkylene group having 1-18 carbon atoms and B represents a substituted or unsubstituted benzene ring.

8. The near-infrared light absorbing dye of claim 7, wherein R represents a benzyl group or phenethyl group.

9. A near-infrared light blocking filter comprising the near-infrared light absorbing dye according to any one of claims 1-8.